

The Honorable Michael K. Powell
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Powell:

I am writing to urge you to support the pending merger of EchoStar and HUGHES, the parent company of DIRECTV. Although I am not a DIRECTV customer, I believe the merger will increase video and broadband choices for consumers like me because the combined company will provide increased competition to cable companies.

The combined company will be a much stronger competitor to cable operators by being able to offer me local TV channels via satellite in my market area, which I currently do not receive.

Broadband access to the Internet is not available to me at this time. If the merger is approved, the new company will be able to provide me with affordable high-speed Internet access via satellite along with the other 40 million American households who do not have affordable high-speed Internet access now.

I appreciate your consideration of my views.

Sincerely,

JEFFREY BURNETTE
762 WHITE TOP RD
BLUFF CITY, TN 37618

petition.

However, the merger will reduce the viable competition for Satellite service in my area. And the offer to give some satllite frequencies to some upcomming Co. is nonsensical. It says that if you let them create a giant company they will create a minnow to 'compete'. Get real. There are already two companies that can compete. If these two companies can't compete then why is this new company going to be able to compete. And if this new merger is allowed and all equipment is replaced, how long do you think it will be before rates are raised to pay for this.

There are no good reasons (from the consumers prospective) to allow this merger. If GM wants to sell Hughes then have them sell it to another company that will offer competition.

I appreciate your consideration of my views.

Sincerely,

JW Holmes
6104 Stevens Forest Road
Columbia, MD 21045